

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

5a

DECISION

**TOPIC Brown's Lake Wildlife Management Area, Woodbury County --
 Morley Estate Tract**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the acquisition of two parcels of land located in Woodbury County. Edwin Morley and Donald Morley are offering two 0.69-acre tracts (1.38 acres) that were owned by their mother, Marguerite Morley (deceased) for \$4,000.

Jerry Gibson negotiated the option in compliance with Title 49 CFR Part 24 which allows the negotiator to negotiate without an appraisal where the value is \$10,000 or under. The Woodbury County Assessor has assessed each lot (0.69 acre) for \$1830 (this is not an appraisal).

The property is located two miles west of Salix and seven miles south of Sioux City. The tracts are located within the boundary of the Brown's Lake Wildlife Management Area (an old ox-bow of the Missouri River), and are covered by timber and a small amount of open grass. Acquisition of this tract will eliminate in-holdings and access problems associated with private ownership surrounded by State ownership.

Wildlife Habitat Stamp funds (Capital Link #2) will be used to acquire the tracts, and thus the property will remain on property tax rolls. Incidental closing costs are the responsibility of the Department.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
February 14, 2008

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

ITEM

5b

DECISION

**TOPIC Dewey's Pasture WMA, Palo Alto County -- Iowa Natural Heritage
Foundation**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the acquisition of a parcel of land located 5 miles north of Ruthven adjacent to Dewey's Pasture. Together, the 80-acre tract and 40-acre tracts are offered \$96,000. The parcel was appraised for \$120,000. The land is encumbered by a Wetland Reserve Program easement.

Sharon L. Chism, Licensed Appraiser of Hertz Appraisal Services, Nevada, Iowa submitted the appraisal. Jerry Gibson negotiated the purchase agreement.

The subject tract has 112.9 acres of cropland that was encumbered by a WRP easement in 2007; 4.1 acres of non-tillable land; and 3 acres of road right-of-way. After restoration the tracts will contain 86 acres of native prairie, and 27 acres of wetlands. There are no buildings. The tract will provide excellent habitat for nesting waterfowl and upland wildlife. The average CSR is 64, but now encumbered by a WRP easement.

Acquisition funding will be from NAWCA-Prairie Lakes Wetland Initiative I (Capital Link #16). Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
February 14, 2008

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
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ITEM

5c

DECISION

**TOPIC West of Seneca Access, Kossuth County -- Iowa Natural Heritage
Foundation**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the acquisition of a parcel of land located 16 miles north and nine miles west of Algona, and one mile west of the Seneca Access Wildlife Management Area. The 285-acre tract is offered for the appraised price of \$314,000. The land is encumbered by a Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) easement.

Steven Schmidt, Licensed Appraiser of Schmidt Appraisal Services, Spirit Lake, Iowa submitted the appraisal. Jerry Gibson negotiated the purchase agreement.

The subject tract has been restored to 30 acres of grassland; 164 acres of native prairie; 70 acres of wetlands, and 14 acres of food plots. The tract will provide excellent habitat for nesting waterfowl and upland wildlife. The average CSR is not applicable since the tract is encumbered by a WRP easement.

Acquisition funding will be Wildlife Habitat Stamp \$250,000 (Capital Link # 2), Duck Stamp \$64,000 (Capital Link #4). Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
February 14, 2008

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
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ITEM

5d

DECISION

TOPIC **George Wyth State Park, Blackhawk County -- Interagency Transfer of Jurisdiction Iowa DOT** [Project No. IX-218-7(58)—3P-07 & FN-218-7(110)—21-07]

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for an "Intergovernmental Agreement and Interagency Transfer of Jurisdiction" from the Iowa Department of Transportation. This transfer is the result of the Iowa DNR requesting jurisdiction and control over parcels mentioned in this item that are mitigation for acquisition of permanent highway right-of-way in connection with the reconstruction of U.S. Highway 218. Said project agreement was dated August 19, 1987.

Jerry Gibson is facilitating the interagency transfer of jurisdiction.

The subject tracts consist of approximately 371 acres in Parcels 23, 614, 614A, 615, 615A, 615B, 616, 620, 628 and 1000B adjacent to, or near, George Wyth State Park (Park). The tracts are primarily river bottom timber and water except the areas on the east side of the Park that have been developed, and are being used as part of the Park.

Said real estate agreement and interagency transfer of jurisdiction is authorized by Chapters 306, 306A, and 313; Sections 28E.3, 28E.4; and Chapter 306.27 of the Code of Iowa, and in accord with the purposes of Section 138 of the Federal-Aid Highway Acts of 1968. There is no consideration.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
February 14, 2008

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
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ITEM

5e

DECISION

TOPIC Wapsipincon River, Buchanan County --Betty McGlaughlin

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a permanent conservation easement on land located in Buchanan County. Betty McGlaughlin offers the 4.7-acre easement for \$11,300. The larger 13.12 acre parcel that includes the area to be encumbered is located on the east side of the Wapsipincon River in the town of Littleton, IA.

John Stortz, certified real property appraiser of Cedar Falls, Iowa, submitted the appraisal. Dan Kinsinger negotiated the purchase agreement.

The proposed easement is designed to allow public access to the river for fishing, boat launching and canoeing and allows the Department to maintain an existing driveway and parking area. As part of the agreement the Department will have the right to modify or remove the east half of the existing roller dam. Further, the Department will have the right to construct a canoe landing at the upstream edge of the property along with a portage trail. The Department agrees to the stipulation that the conservation easement area be named after Robert "Chic" McGlaughlin. Lastly, the Department agrees to place and maintain signage along the easement boundary.

The proposed conservation easement is permanent and shall run with the land. The easement restricts construction of any new buildings, expansion of any existing buildings and forbids any other type of development. Any existing structures that are within the easement area can be maintained in their current configuration.

Funding is budgeted 100% in REAP Protected Waters (Capital Link #70). Survey, signage and incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
February 14, 2008